



# 2023 Simmons Boatworks Optimist US National Championship

U.S. Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA)  
in conjunction with Hampton Yacht Club  
July 31 – August 3, 2023  
Hampton, VA USA

## NOTICE OF RACE

**Amended 4/20/2023: 21 Further Information**

### 1 RULES

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- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. The [USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Events and Championships](#) will apply.
- 1.3. The US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 63.1 and RRS 63.2 do not apply.
- 1.4. In all rules governing this event [SP] denotes a rule which a standard penalty from the “USODA Graded Penalty System” may be applied by the race committee or technical committee without a hearing, or a discretionary penalty applied by the protest committee with a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.1.
- 1.5 [SP][DP] RRS 40.1 will apply at all times while afloat.
- 1.6 [DP][NP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable requests from an event official including reasonable actions to implement Covid-19 guidance, protocols or legislation. Such actions, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions. Failure to comply with requests may be considered misconduct.

### 2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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- 2.1. The sailing instructions will be available after July 15, 2023, at <https://usoda.org/regatta/OTIs7Spw9A>.

### 3 COMMUNICATION

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- 3.1 The online notice board is located at <https://usoda.org/regatta/OTIs7Spw9A>.

### 4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

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- 4.1 The event is open to **all boats** of the International Optimist class that fulfill the eligibility requirements as defined in the [USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Events and Championships](#).
- 4.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing an entry online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/OTIs7Spw9A> and providing all required competitor information, paying all required, and electronically signing the USODA Waiver of Liability.
- 4.3 Each competitor shall confirm their entry by checking the Event Registration page. If a competitor is not listed on the USODA website, then the competitor is not entered. **Entry fees are NON-REFUNDABLE and may not be transferred to another USODA event.**
- 4.4 Each competitor shall complete their entry online prior to check-in at the venue. Entry is not complete until the competitor has submitted a signed USODA Boat Self-Certification Safety Checklist and USODA Sailor Code of Conduct.
- 4.5 The following restrictions on the number of boats apply:



- a) Championship Fleet: 250 boats
- b) Green Fleet: 50 boats

The organizing authority may increase the number of boats or amend the distribution of the cap in its sole discretion.

- 4.6 Online applications will open on Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at 1200 ET and will close Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at 12:00 PM ET. Requests to enter after the online entry deadline are subject to approval by the organizing authority.

## 5 FEES

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- 5.1 Entry fees are as follows:

|                    | Before July 5 | July 5 – July 11 | After July 11 |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| Championship Fleet | \$325         | \$350            | \$375         |
| Green Fleet        | \$300         | \$325            | \$350         |

- 5.2 Registration closes at 12:00 PM ET on July 19, 2023.

## 6 ADVERTISING

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- 6.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

## 7 FORMAT

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- 7.1 The Championship Fleet will race as one or more divisions depending on the number of entries. The process for allocating boats to division and the format will be specified in the Sailing Instructions.
- 7.2 There will be a Green Fleet if at least five (5) boats are registered by the initial deadline. See Green Fleet Addendum D for more information and schedule.

## 8 SCHEDULE

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- 8.1 Program and Schedule

### Monday, July 24

All Day

Visiting competitors and support persons welcome to arrive at Hampton YC. **Visiting competitors and support persons wishing to arrive earlier shall make their own arrangements for water access and boat storage only at other locations. Please contact the Regatta Chair for more information.**

### Tuesday, July 25

1200-1800

Competitor Check-in and Support Person Registration/Check-in

### Friday, July 28

1200-1600

Competitor Check-in and Support Person Registration/Check-in

### Saturday, July 29

All Day

**No visiting competitors and support persons allowed at Hampton YC.** Competitors are encouraged to take advantage of discounted rates to local attractions.



**Sunday, July 30**

- 1500-1800 Competitor Check-in and Support Person Registration/Check-in
- 1800-2030 Girls Nationals Awards Ceremony, Welcome Dinner & Entertainment
- 1830 Parents' Cocktail Hour

**Monday, July 31**

- 0730-0830 Competitor Check-in and Support Person Registration/Check-in
- 0815 Coaches' Meeting
- 0830 Competitors', Coaches' and Parents' Meeting
- 0900 Harbor Launch – Championship Fleet
- 1000 First Warning Signal for Championship Fleet

**Tuesday, August 1 – Wednesday, August 2**

- 0815 Coaches' Meeting
- 0900 Harbor Launch – Championship Fleet
- 1000 First Warning Signal for Championship Fleet

**Thursday, August 3**

- 0815 Coaches' Meeting
- 0900 Harbor Launch – Championship Fleet
- 1000 First Warning Signal for Championship Fleet
- 1530 No Warning Signal for a race or "Set" of races after this time
- After Racing Awards Ceremony & Snacks

8.2 Twelve (12) "Sets" of races are scheduled for the Championship Fleet. Three (3) "Sets" of races are scheduled for each day of racing, however, up to four (4) "Sets" of races may be sailed in one day providing the championship never gets more than one "Set" of races ahead of schedule. A "Set" is a group of scored races in which all divisions competed.

**9 [SP] EQUIPMENT INSPECTION**

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9.1 Boats may be inspected at any time during the event.

**10 VENUE**

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10.1 NoR Addendum A shows the shore facilities.

10.2 NoR Addendum B shows the location of the racing, west of the Hampton River Channel on Hampton Flats.

**11 THE COURSES**

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11.1 The courses to be sailed will be described in the sailing instructions.

**12 PENALTY SYSTEM**

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12.1 The "USODA Graded Penalty System" will apply and is attached as Addendum C. "Fleet" is defined as the number of registered boats in the largest division. Percentage penalties will be rounded up to the nearest whole number.

12.2 RRS Appendix P, Special Procedures for Rule 42, will apply and is changed as follows: RRS P2.3 does not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it applies to any penalty after the first one.



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## 13 SCORING

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- 13.1 One race or “Set” of races is required to constitute a series.
- 13.2 Rule 90.3(e) will be in effect. There shall be no changes to race or series scores, including the correction of errors, initiated more than 24 hours after the reasons outlined in rule 90.3(e)(1), (2) or (3.).

## 14 SAFETY

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- 14.1 Competitors should be cautious when entering and exiting the Hampton Roads and Newport News Channels as recreational and occasional commercial traffic utilize the area.

## 15 ADULT RESPONSIBILITY AND SUPPORT (COACH OR SPECTATOR) VESSELS

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- 15.1 All coaches, parents, guardians and ‘designated adults’ are support persons (See RRS definition *Support Person*).
- 15.2 In addition to the requirements of RRS 3 Decision to Race, a *Support Person* is responsible for the safety of their competitor. It is the responsibility of this adult to decide if their competitor should sail in the weather and sea conditions that might arise during the event. The adults supervising the competitors are ultimately responsible for the risks.
- 15.3 Parents or guardians not personally attending any part of the event shall ensure that another *Support Person* is authorized and designated to make these decisions for their sailor.
- 15.4 Each competitor shall designate, in writing at Registration, the *Support Person* that will be responsible for the competitor throughout the event.
- 15.5 The designated *Support Person* shall accept full responsibility for all actions of the competitor during any activity related to the event. This includes onshore activities before, during, and after the event.
- 15.6 The organizing authority strongly recommends that each sailor have a support (coach or spectator) vessel on the racecourse throughout the event.
- 15.7 The organizing authority recommends there be at least one support vessel for every 10 sailors.
- 15.8 All support vessels shall register online at <https://usoda.org/regatta/0TIs7Spw9A> and pay a \$1 entry fee. A numbered flag, supplied by the organizing authority, shall be displayed at all times while on the water. A \$24 hold will be placed on the credit card provided as a security deposit for the flag.
- 15.9 [DP] Each support vessel shall have a working VHF radio monitoring the designated race committee channel, an anchor suitable for anchoring in the waiting area, and a basic first aid kit.
- 15.10 [DP] All support vessels shall be equipped with a functioning engine safety cut-out switch (kill switch) which shall remain attached to the operator at all times while the engine is running.
- 15.11 [DP] There shall be no unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) drone flight permitted above the racing area, waiting area, corridor, coach/spectator boat zones, start line or finish line.

## 16 CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

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- 16.1 A chartered or loaned boat may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of her class rules, provided that the race committee has approved her sail identification before the first race.

## 17 BERTHING

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- 17.1 [DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while in the boat park.
  - 17.2 [DP] Trailers must be tagged and stored in specified areas. Trailer tags may be obtained at the Race Office.
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17.3 [DP] Support person vessels shall be kept on A Dock, between A68-A78 and additional open berths as available between July 24-August 3. Additional support vessels may be berthed offsite at a location assigned at check-in.

**18 RISK STATEMENT**

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18.1 RRS 3 states: ‘The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.’ By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia, or other causes.**

18.2 The organizing authority including the sponsors, the race committee, the officers, directors, employees and members of the Hampton Yacht Club, USODA, and all those involved in these organizations will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the event.

**19 PRIZES**

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19.1 Prizes will be given as follows:

Championship Fleet - Gold:

Overall: 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> (or 10<sup>th</sup> if over 100 sailors)

Red Fleet: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> (or 5<sup>th</sup> if over 100 sailors)

Blue Fleet: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> (or 5<sup>th</sup> if over 100 sailors)

White Fleet: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> (or 5<sup>th</sup> if over 100 sailors)

Girls: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>

Championship Fleet - Silver:

Overall: 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>.

Green Fleet: Participation Awards for all Competitors

*New York Yacht Club Sportsmanship Award*

*Ewell C. Potts, Jr. Memorial Friendship Trophy*

Additional awards and prizes may be presented at the sole discretion of the host and organizing authority and may be based on criteria other than the event.

**20 QUALIFICATION FOR FUTURE EVENTS**

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20.1 This regatta is a 2024 USODA Team Trials Qualifying event. The top 50% of the Championship Fleet (based upon the total number of boats registered in both the Championship and Green fleets) will receive invitations to compete in the 2024 Optimist Team Trials. In the case where competitors in the top 50% are not team trials eligible, additional competitors will be invited. In the case of series-ties for the last qualifying place, all tied competitors shall receive invitations.

**21 FURTHER INFORMATION**

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**Registration:** USODA Executive Director, Beth Danilek, [usoda@usoda.org](mailto:usoda@usoda.org)

**Regatta Chair:** Maxwell Plarr, [sailingdirector@hamptonyc.com](mailto:sailingdirector@hamptonyc.com)



**Principal Race Officer:** Kevin Reeds

**Protest Committee Chair:** Jerry Thompson

**Technical Committee Chair:** TBD

#### **OPTI CHARTERS, VENDORS, POWERBOAT RENTALS & MORE**

Simmons Boatworks, 203-506-9333, rob@simmonsbw.com, <https://simmonsbw.com/>

Zim Sailing, charters@zimsailing.com, (401) 237-6117, [www.zimsailing.com/charters](http://www.zimsailing.com/charters)

**[Club Boat Charter Company, clubboatcharterco@gmail.com, \(434\) 989-8136, www.clubboatcharterco.com](mailto:clubboatcharterco@gmail.com)**

Event Website: <https://usoda.org/regatta/0TIs7Spw9A>

Host Website – <https://www.hamptonyc.com>

Facebook - [https://www.facebook.com/US-Opti-Sailing-138942536154313/?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](https://www.facebook.com/US-Opti-Sailing-138942536154313/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel)

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/USOptiSailing>



# Addendum A: Venue Maps

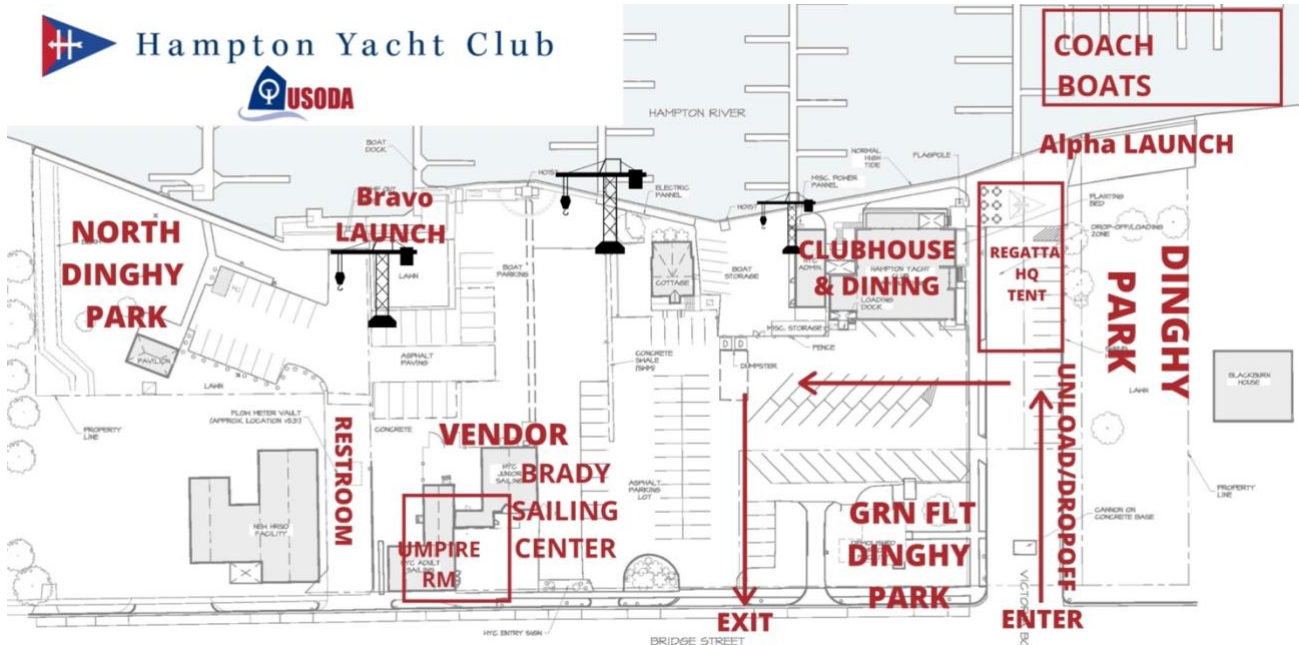
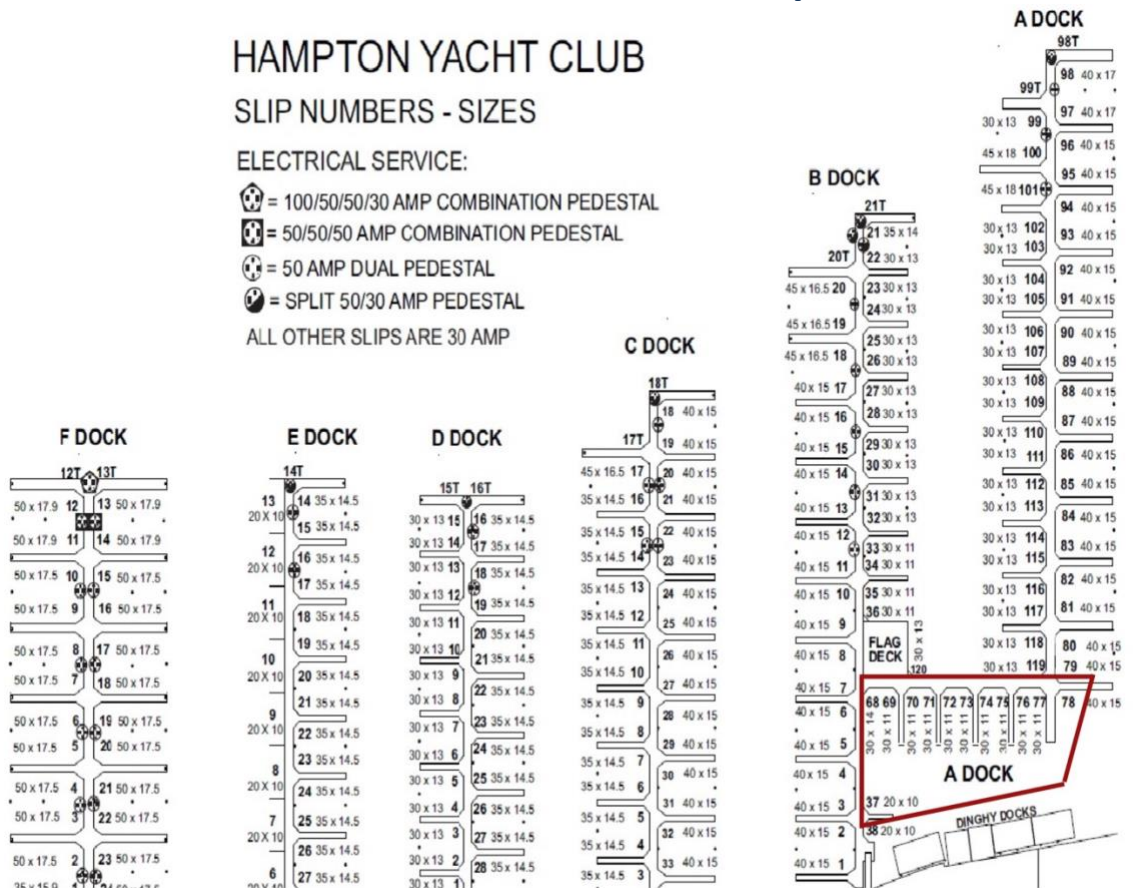
## HAMPTON YACHT CLUB

### SLIP NUMBERS - SIZES

#### ELECTRICAL SERVICE:

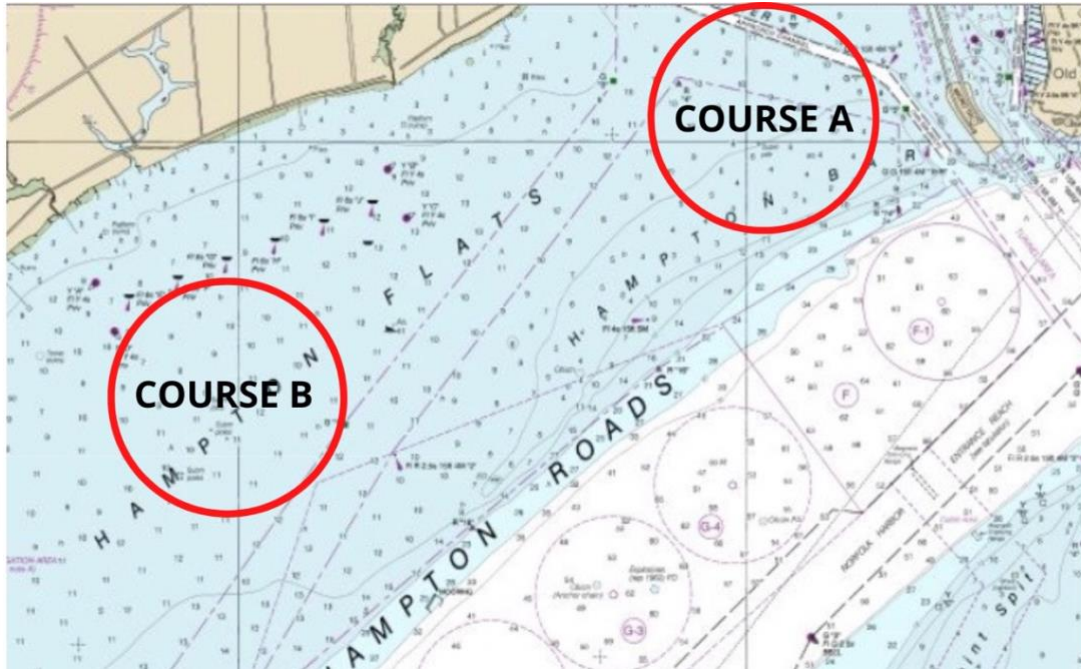
- = 100/50/50/30 AMP COMBINATION PEDESTAL
- = 50/50/50 AMP COMBINATION PEDESTAL
- = 50 AMP DUAL PEDESTAL
- = SPLIT 50/30 AMP PEDESTAL

ALL OTHER SLIPS ARE 30 AMP

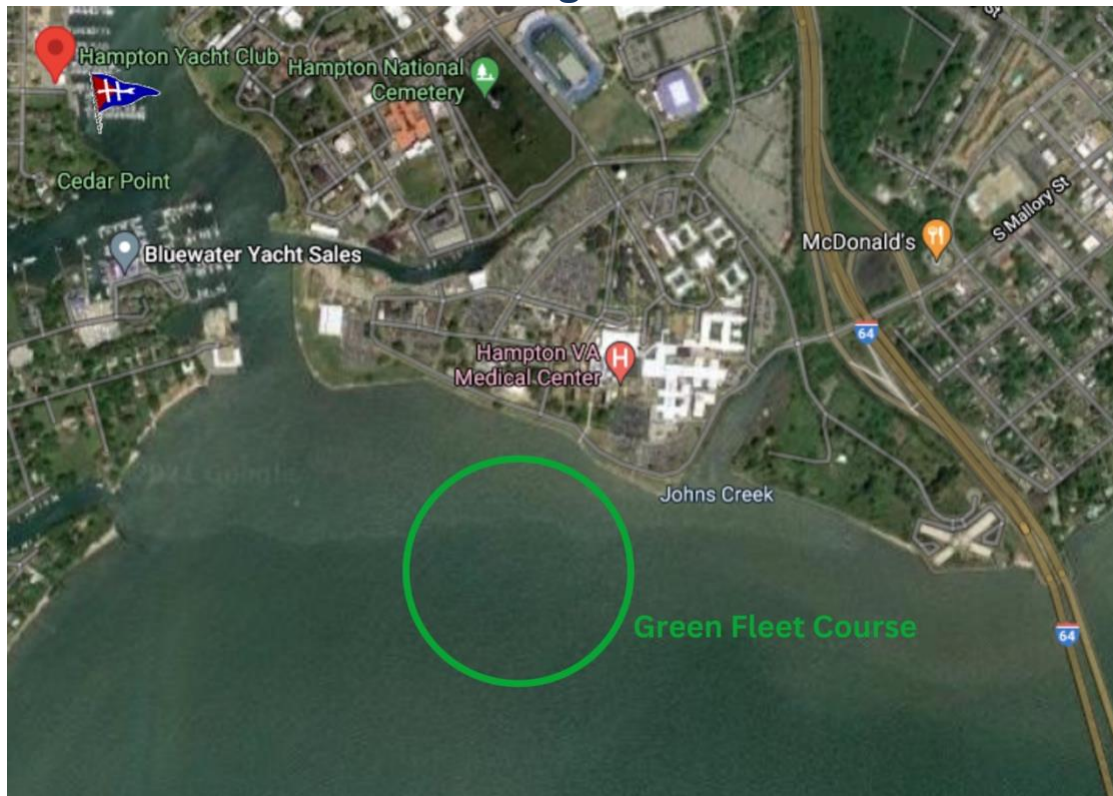




## Addendum B: Racing Area – Championship Fleet



## Addendum B: Racing Area – Green Fleet







## Addendum C – USODA Graded Penalty System

### Graded Penalty System – Percentage Penalties rounded up to the next whole number

Penalties apply to the race of infringement; otherwise, to the first race of the day.

#### 1. Minor NoR/SI penalties

*Penalty approximately equal to 5% of fleet*

- a) Not displaying the assigned colored division streamer
- b) Launching before 'Shore Launch' signal
- c) Failure to return promptly to waiting area after finishing
- d) Failure to report penalty taken

#### 2. Minor class rule penalties and intermediate NoR/SI penalties

*Penalty approximately equal to 10% of fleet*

- a) Bailer not attached to hull (CR 4.3)
- b) Paddle not attached to hull (CR 4.3)
- c) Daggerboard not attached to hull (CR 3.3.4)
- d) Painter not attached to mast step (CR 4.3)
- e) Whistle not attached to personal flotation device (CR 4.2)
- f) One sail tie 5 mm or more loose (CR 6.6.3)
- g) Two sail ties 3 mm or more loose (CR 6.6.3)
- h) Accidental loss of sail tie (CR 6.6.3)
- i) Ring(s) on span of boom slipping (CR.3.5.3.8)
- j) Sailing across a race in progress before starting or after finishing (RRS 23.1)
- k) Out of the waiting area
- l) Failure to comply with Safety Check-Out/Check-In procedures
- m) Breaches of Support Person Regulations

#### 3. Intermediate class rule penalties

*Penalty approximately equal to 30% of fleet*

- a) No bailer, paddle or painter in boat (CR 4.3)
- b) No whistle (CR 4.2)
- c) No lanyard, locking device or other arrangement to attach mast to the hull (CR 3.5.2.11)
- d) Sail outside limits of bands (CR 6.6.3)
- e) Two ties 5 mm or more loose (CR 6.6.3)
- f) Three or more ties 3 mm or more loose (CR 6.6.3)
- g) Clearance between span and boom more than 100 mm (CR 3.5.3.8)
- h) Throat, tack or clew eyelet 3 mm or more loose (CR 6.6.3)
- i) Failure to wear an approved PFD (CR 4.2)
- j) Failure to report for measurement after finishing
- k) Failing on-water measurement inspection
- l) Repeated infringement of Section 1 or Section 2 penalties, above

#### 4. Major class rule penalties (per RRS)

*Penalty DSQ – requires Protest Hearing*

- a) All RRS, except as amended
- b) All NoR and SI, including amendments, except as specified above
- c) Use of uninspected equipment
- d) Use of unapproved fittings
- e) Repeated infringement of Section 3 penalties, above



## Addendum D: Green Fleet

### 1. Green Fleet Policy and Rules

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- 1.1. Green Fleet will be run in accordance with the rules and policies outlined by the USODA. This includes the following:
- 1.2. Sailors are expected to use IODA class compliant equipment. However, Green Fleet sailors are exempted from the measurement process.
- 1.3. Active coaching during racing is allowed and encouraged for the back 50% of the fleet. Coaches on the Green Fleet course agree to help any sailor in need of assistance or coaching, not just their own.
- 1.4. Sailors will be expected to attend the morning and post racing briefings as outlined in the schedule.
- 1.5. Protests are not allowed, although a mock protest may be carried out for educational purposes.
- 1.6. Informal results may be kept and displayed on shore, but no prizes shall be awarded based on results. All competitors shall receive a Green Fleet participation medallion.

### 2. Green Fleet Entry Fees

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- 2.1. Green Fleet sailors receive a discounted entry fee. This fee includes the same social events and meals as the standard entry fee. Entry fees are as follows:
  - a. The entry fee is \$300 for entries received by July 4, 2023.
  - b. A late fee of \$25 (\$325 total entry fee) shall be paid for entries received July 5, 2023, through July 11, 2023.
  - c. An additional late entry fee of \$25 (\$350 total entry fee) shall be paid for entries received July 11, 2023 through 12:00 pm ET on July 19, 2023.

### 3. Green Fleet Schedule

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- 3.1. Green Fleet will be using the following daily schedule. The schedule is approximate and is dependent on the wind conditions and the Championship Fleet schedule.

#### Schedule

Monday, July 31 – Thursday, August 3

|             |                             |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 0900        | Arrival/Rigging             |
| 0930        | Green Fleet Briefing        |
| 1000        | Green Fleet Launch          |
| 1030 - 1430 | Racing                      |
| 1500        | De-Rig/Post Racing Briefing |
| 1600        | Dismissal                   |

### 4. Racing Format

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An effort will be made to complete as many short 15-minute races as practicable. The Green Fleet course will be on Strawberry Banks, just east of the Hampton River Channel Entrance. This will provide excellent spectating and a short transit to/from the racecourse.